

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (Original) An antiviral fiber, wherein  
fine particles of a metal and/or a metal compound are dispersed in the  
fiber;  
the fiber has a cross-linked structure and a carboxyl group in a  
molecule thereof; and  
the fine particles have deactivation effect to a virus and poor solubility  
in water.
2. (Original) The antiviral fiber according to Claim 1, wherein at least a  
part of the carboxyl group exists as a salt.
3. (Currently amended) The antiviral fiber according to Claim 1 [[or 2]],  
wherein the metal and/or metal compound is at least one kind selected from  
a group consisting of Ag, Cu, Zn, Al, Mg, and Ca, and a metal compound  
thereof.
4. (Currently amended) The antiviral fiber according to ~~any one of~~  
~~Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, wherein the metal and/or metal compound is included  
at not less than 0.2 mass% as a metal in the fiber component.
5. (Currently amended) An antiviral textile product, comprising the  
antiviral fiber according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, in cottony  
shape, non-woven fabric shape, textile shape, paper shape, or knitted fabric  
shape.
6. (Original) The antiviral textile product according to Claim 5, wherein  
the metal and/or metal compound is included at not less than 0.2 mass% as  
a metal in whole of the fiber component.
7. (Original) A method for producing an antiviral fiber, comprising:  
bonding a metal ion of a metal having deactivation effect to a virus  
and poor solubility in water to at least a part of a carboxyl group of a fiber

having a cross-linked structure and a carboxyl group in a molecule thereof;  
and

then depositing fine particles of the metal and/or metal compound in  
the fiber by reduction and/or substitution reaction.

8. (Original) The method for producing an antiviral fiber according to  
Claim 7, comprising:

using a fiber, wherein the fiber has a cross-linked acrylic fiber as a  
basic skeleton and at least a part of a functional group of a molecule of the  
cross-linked acrylic fiber is hydrolyzed, as the fiber having a cross-linked  
structure and having a carboxyl group in a molecule thereof;

bonding the metal ion of a metal to at least a part of the carboxyl  
group;

then depositing fine particles of the metal and/or metal compound in  
the fiber by reduction and/or substitution reaction.

9. (New) The antiviral fiber according to Claim 2, wherein the metal  
and/or metal compound is included at not less than 0.2 mass% as a metal in  
the fiber component.

10. (New) The antiviral fiber according to Claim 3, wherein the metal  
and/or metal compound is included at not less than 0.2 mass% as a metal in  
the fiber component.